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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

TOPIC 1. PS Battalion in As.

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2. Loreto Military Prison in Prague.

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 8 April to 3 July 1951

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DATE PREPARED 26 November 1951

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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SUBJECT:

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1. Prior to 8 April 1951, the PS battalion in As (M 51/P 18) was subordinate to the 1st PS Brig in Cheb (N 51/P 37) which was commanded by Major Okrouhlik, (fmu). The headquarters of the brigade was located in a monastery south of Cheb. An engineer company quartered in the monastery and a penal company were assigned directly to the brigade headquarters. A PS battalion in Hranice (M 51/P 19) with companies in Stitary (M 51/P 19), Ujezd (M 51/P 19) and Trojmezí (M 51/P 19) was also subordinate to the PS brigade. *
2. The headquarters of the PS battalion in As was in a former sawmill and was commanded by Lieutenant Hrabe, (fmu). Headquarters personnel also included 1 chief of staff, 1 motor transport officer, 1 ration supply officer, 1 head of the cipher section, 1 medical officer, and 1 dog handler.
3. Units subordinate to the PS battalion in As included a guard unit of about 30 men and 4 PS companies. One company of 30 men southwest of As on the road to Selb, Bavaria, included a detail of 15 men in a villa near the railroad station who formed a special guard in the area of the railroad station; a second company of about 30 men was in Krasna (M 51/P 19); a third company in Dolni Paseky (M 51/P 29); and a fourth company in Vyhledy (M 51/P 28). Other companies of unknown assignment were stationed in Polna (M 51/P 28) and Novy Zdar (M 51/P 18). **
4. The companies were armed with model 98-A rifles, models 48-A and 48-B submachine guns, and some model 26 light machine guns. The brigade headquarters had about 10 Praga-RN trucks; the battalion only 2 trucks, 2 sedans and 2 motorcycles; and the companies 1 sedan each.

Loreto Military Prison in Prague.

5. Prior to 3 July 1951, the Loreto military prison in Prague was located in the Hradcany borough. [] there were about 300 prisoners. A General Cermak, (fmu), was among them. Treatment was harsh, but not insufferable. Food was insufficient. Visitors were allowed once a month. The prison contained a "torture section" where the prisoners were beaten by clubbing and deprivation of sleep and food.

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